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THE TULSA STAR

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SUCCESSOR TO THE MUSKOGEE STAR

Official Organ of The Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, And The Knights And Ladies of Harmony of The World, Oklahoma Jurisdiction

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Editor Is Charged With Criminal Libel!

**Peeved Because THE TULSA STAR
Published Facts About Him, T. J. El-
liott Tries to Humiliate and Intimi-
date Editor By Charging Crimi-
nal Libel**

**Editor Is Arrested But Easily Give
\$500 Bond**

**THE FIGHT TO THE FINISH IS NOW ON AND THE BIG
GUNS ARE YET TO BE BROUGHT INTO ACTION**

The second chapter in the famous League graft exposed by the Tulsa Star was opened last Saturday when T. J. Elliott of Muskogee, president of the State League went into the Superior Court of Muskogee County and secured a warrant for the arrest of A. J. Smitherman editor of the Tulsa Star charging criminal libel. Deputy Sheriff W. L. Robbins of Muskogee came to Tulsa with the warrant Tuesday morning and went to the police station where he found Chief Burns who accompanied him to the Star office where the editor was found. Upon the recommendation of Chief Burns the editor was notified of the warrant and allowed to go on his own recognizance with instructions to be ready to leave for Muskogee at 3.17. Learning of his arrest a number of the editors friends set about to make bond for him and in less than an hour time the following citizens had offered their service: Lawyer H. A. Guess, W. L. McKee, J. H. Goodwin, Rev. Jas. A. Johnson, Capt. T. D. Jackson, Rev. C. L. Netherland, E. A. Loupe, H. T. Wilson, G. W. Tate, M. J. Lathon, F. C. Smith, H. Evans, Wm. Walker, H. J. Caver, J. B. Stradford, O. W. Gully, W. McCoy, R. M. Foreman, Dr. L. H. Johnson of Coweta, and a number of others whose names were not taken. It was not necessary, however, for all of these to sign the \$500 bond and only four of them, J. B. Stradford, J. H. Goodwin, Wm. Walker and H. J. Caver signed as sureties for the editors appearance for trial. Promptly at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon the editor accompanied by a number of his enthusiastic friends arrived at the Midland Valley depot and waited for the deputy sheriff. As the editor was boarding the train his friends assured him that bond could be made for him in almost any amount, and smiling his appreciation he waved them a hearty goodbye, telling them he would return at 1:15 on the Katy the same night. The trip to Muskogee was without any important incident and the sheriff and his prisoner discussed politics and Elliotts. Arriving at Muskogee we found a few of "The Boys in the Trenches" on hand ready to make bond for the editor, but it was not necessary. However, just for the sake of doing the thing, W. H. Twine, Jr., son of a life long friend of the editor insisted on becoming one of the sureties. Sheriff Ledbetter had gone home when the deputy arrived with his prisoner but he was easily reached by phone and when told that Smitherman had arrived with a bond the sheriff immediately ordered his release. After spending a pleasant

evening with friends the editor returned to his family and friends at Tulsa.

Thus opens the second chapter in what promises to be one of the greatest and bitterest fights against graft ever staged anywhere in the United States by a Colored newspaper. Property scheduled to cover the editors bond of \$500.00 amounts to \$6,600.00. The arrest of the editor on a warrant sworn to by Elliott for criminal libel we have good reason to believe, was the result of malicious premeditation, executed with a vindictive desire to humiliate and intimidate the man who has dared to expose some of his acts to the public.

Whatever THE TULSA STAR has said concerning Elliott it has acted in good faith and can substantiate every statement ever published in these columns. No one knows better than Elliott himself that we have not libeled him, but if it takes the verdict of a jury to convince him that he has not been slandered we believe we have the goods. At any rate, the fight is on to the finish and in the end the public, as well as Elliott, will know that THE TULSA STAR is to be relied upon to deal honestly and fairly even with grafters of the deepest dye. Now that the editor of the Star will be hauled into court to answer Elliott's charge of libel we will not be content until every detail of the case is thoroughly aired. We have known for some time that it has been Elliott's ambition to land the editor of the Star in jail. It is said that he made a trip to Tulsa at one time for this purpose but for some reason he failed to get a warrant. It is also known that Elliott and others of the gang have cowardly assailed the reputation of the editor with willful and malicious intent and he is no doubt relying on this kind of unmanly tactics to sustain his case in court. But we have nothing to fear, and serve notice now that we are asking no quarters and will give none. This is not a case of Elliott vs. Smitherman. It is rather a case of Elliott vs. Right and Justice, and Smitherman vs. graft and corruption. Elliott seeks vengeance, Smitherman seeks only a square deal.

We are willing to submit our case to the jury and an unbiased public without fear of the consequence. We ask no favors, but let justice be done.

BUSINESS LEAGUE PROGRAM.
Dreamland Theatre, Sunday, Decem-
ber 13, at 3:30 O'clock.

1 Music Audience
2 Invocation Audience
3 Music Audience

President of The National Negro Press Association Endorses The Stars' Fight

**A Number of Newspaper Men Met in Na-
tions Capital and Voted Compliment
to Editor of The Tulsa Star**

**SAYS THERE ARE ONE HUNDRED MEMBERS
OF THE CRAFT READY TO JOIN IN THE SCRAP**

That the public may know that the work of THE TULSA STAR in denouncing Elliott, president of the Oklahoma State League, for the part he played in the very shabby treatment accorded the Press Ass'n. in August, etc., is appreciated outside of Oklahoma, we beg to submit the following letter received last week from Hon. Melvin J. Chisum, President of the National Negro Press Ass'n., Baltimore, Md.

This letter came unsolicited and shows beyond a doubt that the Star's efforts to expose Elliott is liberally endorsed by the National Negro Press Ass'n. and further that the boys of the craft are willing to join in the fight at our bidding.

The letter in full follows:
Baltimore, Md., 11-30-14.
My dear Brother Smitherman:—
Accept my highest approval for the lessons you are giving Mr. Elliott of Muskogee in repayment for the very shabby treatment he accorded the Press Association in August. You deserve marked credit for the excellent attention and treatment you have given the matter and you may depend upon it you shall be accorded special honor in the Press Association.

It would have been highly improper and decidedly unethical for me or any of us outside the state of Oklahoma to have led the arraignment, it should have come from a source within the State and you have certainly done the thing needful in finest order to the complete satisfaction of the Press "Gang" and I salute you for the brave, courageous, splendid man which you are.

Quite a crowd of members of the Press Ass'n. met in Washington on Thanksgiving Day and all hands voted you a compliment and I here extend it to you with sincere cordiality. When ever you have any scrapping to be done and you need help there is a round hundred fellows of the craft which you can bank on to say what you wish us to say.

We have all been very hard driven since the summer season, we have not done many things which we desired, because of the very tight conditions in the money market, but I am going to visit you at Tulsa in January 1915. With sincere good wishes and a hope that you and yours are enjoying the very best there is going, I am,
Yours to command,
MELVIN J. CHISIUM.
Hon. A. J. Smitherman, Editor,
The Tulsa Star,
Tulsa, Okla.

4 Quotations General
5 Music Audience
6 Reading Miss T. Patterson
7 Vocal Solo Mrs. M. M. Martin
8 Address Prof. J. W. Hughes
9 Benediction Audience

Local League To Help Poor

**STOCKING COMMITTEE IS
APPOINTED**

At the meeting of the local business League last Monday night a committee was appointed to cheer the hearts of the poor Colored children of Tulsa on Christmas. Just what method the committee will pursue is not known, but if the spirit manifested Monday night prevails nothing will be left undone to induce old Santa Claus to visit the poor children who would otherwise know nothing of the joys of Christmas morning. This is indeed a worthy work for the league to undertake and every good man who believes in trying to make the world happier should assist the committee.

There are quite a number of poor children in Tulsa as well as in Belgium who need clothes and food, and it would be well for us to remember the old adage: "Charity begins at home." Capt. Jackson, Vice-President of the League presided and assistant sec. Loupe took the minutes. The following committee was appointed to look after the poor: Prof. J. W. Hughes, chairman, Mrs. Anna Warren, Mrs. C. Dearman, O. W. Gurley and Mrs. Callins.

Through the efforts of E. A. Loupe and Dr. J. J. McKeavor of the Improvement committee, Mr. O'Malory of the City Park Board was present and talked to the league about beautifying the residence district. He said the Park Board will set out trees and guarantee them at the rate of 75c each and encouraged the league to push this feature of its work. New members to join Monday night were H. D. Evans, P. L. Phillips, J. E. Fields and Dr. B. F. Smith, recently of Ardmore who delivered a short address to the league.

The Business League Program for last Sunday afternoon was the usual success. The time allotted for the address by Mr. Howell, business man of Ft. Smith, in his absence was taken up in discussing current events, in which quite a number took part. By suggestion of J. B. Stradford, Prof. Hughes led a discussion of the European war which was closed by a very ably and satisfactory comment by lawyer Roberts responding to a special request. Miss Dorothy Patterson maintained her high place as a songster by the rendition of a solo.

Murder Trial Up Today

The preliminary trial of W. Guest for the murder of John Hall in the Cincinnati Club last Monday will be held in Justice Lee Daniels Court this morning. Guest shot Hall during a fight over a game, after the latter had severely cut him about the head and face. Hall died in the P and S Hospital Tuesday morning. The body accompanied by his wife was shipped to Humensville, Mo. for burial.

Uncle Starts Up Again

The old Lyric Theatre Bob Rogers, Prop. and Mrs. Louise Rogers, Mgr. opened for the season last Friday night under the name of The New Lincoln Theatre with the Stovall Stock Company featuring the best musical comedy seen in Tulsa since "The Smart Set" played at the Grand Theatre in Sept. Mrs. Rogers is assisted in the management by E. D. Lynwood and both are highly pleased with the ready patronage they are receiving. The Stovall Stock Company with three good teams Mr. and Mrs. Stovall, Mr. and Mrs. Shafer, Mr. and Mrs. Porter, and John Day as a lone Star performer and monologist, is drawing the crowd.

Will Increase Stock After January 30th

The Oklahoma Realty and Investment Company of this city at a meeting of the board of directors held recently decided to continue selling stock at par value, \$1.00 until Jan. 30, 1915, after which time the value of the stock will be increased. Mr. Stradford, president of the company is now making efforts to make the final payment on the business lot on N. Greenwood owned by the company by that time so the company will be in a position to do some big work another year.

Public Library

The Public Reading Room and Library for Colored people of this city has grown much more in demand since moving into its new quarters in the lobby of the Tulsa Star office. Quite a number of the young ladies of the city, school children and some teachers avail themselves of the privileges of the Library. This is an encouraging sign and the management will make special efforts to make the library more attractive. The Library needs more books and magazines and the general public is requested to give whatever assistance possible in money or books to foster this worthy institution.